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SUMMER ARTS GUIDE 2017

From museums to musicals, Philly's culture scene sizzles. 13-23

Kimiko Glenn saying goodbye to Poussey. 26

Could back to the future save Philly teams? 28

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'LORDY, I HOPE THERE ARE TAPES'

Fired FBI Director James Comey portrayed President Trump as a liar during his riveting testimony on Capitol Hill. 4, 6

GETTY IMAGES

SOME TOAST COMEY TESTIMONY AT BARS

Crowds packed bars on Thursday to watch former FBI chief James Comey testify to Congress, with some patrons dismissing the hearing as hype and others cheering his comments as they downed mixed drinks with names like "impeachmint" and "bad hombre." From Capitol Hill to San Francisco's Castro district, television "watch parties" beckoned politics buffs to taverns, restaurants and living

rooms to view an event some likened to the "Super Bowl of Washington." The drama around Comey's first public appearance since he was fired by President Donald Trump last month drew the kind of communal public interest more often associated with major sporting events and awards shows. REUTERS

UK EXIT POLL SUGGESTS MAY WILL LOSE MAJORITY

2 Prime Minister Theresa May's Conservative Party will fail to win a parliamentary majority in Britain's election, according to an exit poll, a shock result that would plunge domestic politics into turmoil and could delay Brexit talks. The exit poll predicted May's party would not win a majority of the 650 seats in parliament to take office alone, meaning she would have to form a coalition or attempt to govern with the backing of other smaller parties. The exit poll predicted the Conservatives would win 314 seats and the Labour Party 266, meaning no clear winner and a "hung parliament." The exit poll sent shockwaves through financial markets. It was an extraordinary failure for May, who was enjoying opinion poll leads of 20 points and more when she called the snap election just seven weeks ago. REUTERS

CONTRACTOR HEADS TO COURT ON LEAK CHARGES

3 The White House called for tough punishment of people who leak classified information, ahead of a detention hearing for an intelligence contractor charged with releasing a report on Russian election interference. An attorney for the 25-year-old contractor, Reality Leigh Winner, said she intends to plead not guilty, NBC News reported. She is the first person charged with leaking classified information to

the media under the administration of President Donald Trump. Trump, who has repeatedly vowed to crack down on leakers, believes anyone found guilty of unlawfully disclosing classified information should be punished to the fullest extent of the law, White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders said at a press briefing. REUTERS

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

COSBY TRIAL

4 Actor Bill Cosby (center) returns to the courtroom with aide Andrew Wyatt following a break in Cosby's trial on sexual assault charges at the Montgomery County Courthouse on Thursday in Norristown. A former Temple University employee alleges that the entertainer drugged and molested her in 2004 at his home in suburban Philadelphia. More than 40 women have accused the 79-year-old entertainer of sexual assault. For more on the trial, see pages 8-9. GETTY IMAGES

HOUSE PASSES BILL TO REPLACE DODD-FRANK

5 The House of Representatives voted largely along party lines to replace the 2010 Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform law, a move that is expected to die in the Senate but open the door to revamping or eliminating regulations that came out of the 2007-09 financial crisis. The bill, called the CHOICE act, was approved by a vote of 233-to-186. Authored by House Financial Services Committee Chairman Jeb Hensarling, a Republican, it gives banks a choice between complying with Dodd-Frank or holding onto more capital. It also restructures the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, created under Dodd-Frank to guard individuals against fraud in lending. Democrats are fiercely opposed to restructuring the CFPB. The U.S. Senate is not expected to take up the bill in its entirety, even though it has the backing of President Trump, largely because of the threat that Democrats will use a filibuster to stall it. REUTERS

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ERIN TIERNAN, WEB REPORTER
Modern-day slavery is apparently alive and well in Boston, where a married couple was just forced to pay $35,000 following allegations they did not pay a live-in domestic worker. Learn more at **metro.us/news.**

PLAY TO WIN $100!

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Comey says Trump fired him to undermine FBI Russia investigation

In a speech to supporters across town, President Trump vowed to fight on.

Former FBI Director James Comey accused President Donald Trump on Thursday of firing him to try to undermine its investigation into possible collusion by his campaign team with Russia's alleged efforts to influence the 2016 presidential election.

In the most eagerly anticipated U.S. congressional hearing in years, Comey told lawmakers the Trump administration had lied and defamed him and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

During more than two hours of testimony, Comey told the Senate Intelligence Committee he believed Trump had directed him in February to drop an FBI probe into the president's former national security adviser Michael Flynn as part of the Russia investigation.

Comey would not say whether he thought the president sought to obstruct justice, but added it would be up to special counsel Robert Mueller, who is now investigating the Russia allegations, "to sort that out."

Comey gave short, deliberative answers. He painted a picture of an overbearing president whom he did not trust and who pressured him to stop the FBI Flynn probe.

Trump critics say any efforts by the president to hinder an FBI probe could amount to obstruction of justice. Such an offense potentially could lead to Trump being impeached by Congress, although his fellow Republicans who control the Senate and House of Representatives have shown little appetite for such a move.

Former FBI Director James Comey testifies before the Senate Intelligence Committee in the Hart Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill. GETTY IMAGES

Asked why he thought Trump fired him, Comey said he did not know for sure. He added, "Again, I take the president's words. I know I was fired because of something about the way I was conducting the Russia investigation was in some way putting pressure on him, in some way irritating him, and he decided to fire me because of that."

Comey repeatedly said there were details he could not discuss in a public session, making clear he had sensitive information he could disclose only in a closed session with the senators.

Comey said Trump's administration had defamed him in comments made after his firing by saying that the FBI was in disarray and that the workforce had lost confidence in its leader. "Those were lies, plain and simple," Comey said.

His accusations could further mire Trump's administration in legal difficulties. Mueller and several congressional committees are investigating what U.S. intelligence agencies have concluded was an effort by Russia to help Trump win the election by discrediting Hillary Clinton.

The White House has denied any collusion with Moscow.

Trump vowed to continue fighting back against the allegations, telling supporters, "We're under siege — but we will come out bigger and better and stronger than ever. … We know how to fight and we will never give up."

Comey said he did not know if there are tapes of his conversations with Trump but said if so they should be made public.

"Lordy, I hope there are tapes," Comey said.

Republicans on the committee questioned Comey intently but did not attack his integrity or try to treat him roughly.

Comey testified he kept notes after meeting with Trump because "I was honestly concerned that he might lie about the nature of our meeting, and so I thought it really important to document."

Comey's appearance attracted television "watch parties" beckoning politics buffs to taverns, restaurants and living rooms to view an event some likened to the "Super Bowl of Washington." REUTERS

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Former FBI Director James Comey speaks during a hearing before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. GETTY IMAGES

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COVFEFES ALL AROUND!

TOM FOREMAN

Opinion

CNN's Tom Foreman is the author of the book "My Year of Running Dangerously."

I've watched a lot of Congressional hearings in my life, and most are about as exciting as a dusty painting of the Founding Fathers contemplating a parchment. But I must doff my powdered wig to the Senate Intelligence Committee — because the testimony of fired FBI Director James Comey was riveting.

Let's go to the highlight reel! Comey thrilled Democratic stone-throwers by repeatedly calling the president of the United States a liar, and giving lurid details of a private meeting with the president in which "loyalty" kept coming up like the password to a creepy nightclub. Comey delighted conservative media outlets, however, by confirming the prez was not under investigation over the Russian election hack. He took swipes at Attorney General Jeff Sessions and former AG Loretta Lynch. He served up a surprise about how news of his notes got out — i.e. he leaked them! He let loose with an excellent colloquialism: "Lordy!" And he compared giving information to journalists to "feeding seagulls at the beach."

It was fantastic. Good enough, I imagine, to satisfy dozens here in D.C. who — I swear — went to bars for "watch parties." And probably good enough to please many more observing the proceedings across the country. And why not? There was something in it for everyone.

For those who want to see this president ripped from the Oval Office, impeached, and shipped back to New York, there was enough confirmation of questionable behavior to keep their hopes alive. For those who want to see him exonerated: Even though much of the testimony made President Trump look bad, none of it seemed to have him in serious political or legal jeopardy at least for now.

So what comes next? The Russian probe will go on and some of the president's associates will continue to be scrutinized — perhaps some will be implicated in some sort of shenanigans. But the furor around the president himself in this matter may be a little muted now. Because as much as the Republican president's opponents hoped Comey's testimony would lay out a clear case for obstruction of justice, as California Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein said, "Look, we're not there yet." Trump and the Kremlin, it will send a shock wave down Pennsylvania Avenue hard enough to rattle the White House china.

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Cosby told police he gave accuser pills before 'petting'

Lurid details have emerged during the former TV star's sexual assault trial.

Bill Cosby told authorities that he gave Andrea Constand allergy pills to help her relax before what he described as consensual "petting," a police sergeant testified at the entertainer's sexual assault trial on Thursday.

In 2005, Richard Schaffer of the Cheltenham Township police, then a detective, interviewed Cosby as part of the initial investigation into Constand's allegation that the comedian, now 79, drugged and sexually assaulted her at his Philadelphia-area home a year earlier.

Cosby's words were read at the beginning of a new phase in the Norristown, Pennsylvania, trial, now in its fourth day. Prosecutors intend to use Cosby's statements to police and in a deposition from Constand's 2005 lawsuit to show he followed a pattern of giving young women medication before sexually assaulting them.

Constand and another accuser, Kelly Johnson, testified this week that Cosby gave them pills that left them barely conscious and unable to resist.

Cosby, star of the 1980s hit television family comedy "The Cosby Show," has faced similar allegations from dozens of women. He has denied all of the claims.

Only Constand's accusation has resulted in criminal charges because the other alleged incidents are too old to prosecute.

Prosecutors walked Schaffer through his notes of an interview with Cosby at his lawyers' office in January 2005, days after Constand reported the incident.

"Did Andrea ever tell you to stop?" the detective conducting the interview asked Cosby.

"No," he said.

"Was Andrea conscious?" the detective asked.

"Yes," Cosby said.

Cosby said he regularly took two Benadryl pills to help him sleep and told police he gave

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Actor Bill Cosby and aide Andrew Wyatt arrive for Cosby's trial. GETTY IMAGES

Constand 1½ such pills after they discussed her lack of sleep.

The two then moved to his couch, where they engaged in what Cosby called "petting."

In cross-examination of Schaffer, Cosby lawyer Brian McMonagle focused on discrepancies in Constand's 2005 statements to police, including failing to mention an earlier incident in which she said Cosby made an unwanted advance.

Cosby had told police they kissed and fondled during that encounter. She asked him to stop when he removed her shirt, a request he followed, the performer told police.

In court, Schaffer asked McMonagle whether Cosby said it was "his impression that she didn't want to go further."

"He was a real gentleman there," the officer replied with a hint of sarcasm. REUTERS

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City of Philadelphia Public Hearing Notice

The **Committee on Public Property and Public Works** of the Council of the City of Philadelphia will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, June 14, 2017**, at **10:00 AM**, in **Room 400, City Hall**, to hear testimony on the following items:

170287 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to convey to the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development, all or part of a parcel of land located in the area bounded by Linden Avenue, State Road, Amtrak's Northeast Corridor, and I-95 for further conveyance.

170358 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City, to enter into a lease agreement with Beech Interplex, Inc., for use by the City of all or a portion of the premises located at 1514 Cecil B. Moore Avenue, under certain terms and conditions.

170397 An Ordinance authorizing the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development (PAID) to purchase two properties situate at 1620 South 49th Street and 4900 Grays Avenue, under and subject to the terms and conditions of the Philadelphia Industrial and Commercial Development Agreement between the City, PAID, and the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC), under certain terms and conditions.

170437 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to convey to the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development, all or part of a parcel of land located in the area bounded by East Ontario Street, Weikel Street, Tulip Street, and East Tioga Street, for further conveyance.

170505 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to enter into a lease agreement for use by the City of certain portion of the Premises located at 6601 New State Road, under certain terms and conditions.

170506 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City, to enter into a lease agreement with Washington Service Corp., for use by the City of all or a portion of the premises located at 8747 Frankford Avenue, under certain terms and conditions.

170507 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City, to enter into a sublease agreement with The Philadelphia Municipal Authority for use by the City of a portion of the premises located at 1425 Arch Street, all under certain terms and conditions.

170508 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City, to enter into a sublease agreement with The Philadelphia Municipal Authority for use by the City of a portion of the premises located at 1500 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, all under certain terms and conditions.

170511 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City of Philadelphia, to convey to the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority, all or part of a parcel of land located in the area bounded by Market Street, North Salford Street, Filbert Street, and North 59th Street, for further conveyance, under certain terms and conditions.

170513 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City, to enter into a lease agreement with Grays Ferry Partners, LP, by its agent Korman Commercial Properties for use by the City of all or a portion of the premises located at 3009 Grays Ferry Avenue, under certain terms and conditions.

170557 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City, to acquire fee simple title or a lesser interest by purchase, condemnation or otherwise, in parcels of land generally in the area bounded by Susquehanna, Lambert, Norris, 22nd, Diamond and 21st Streets, and authorizing an agreement between the City and the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority for the PRA to act as the City's condemnation agent, under certain terms and conditions.

170559 An Ordinance authorizing the Commissioner of Public Property, on behalf of the City, to enter into a sublease agreement with the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development for use by the City of premises located at 400 N. Broad Street and 1501 Callowhill Street, and to exercise an option for the City to purchase the same, all under certain terms and conditions.

Immediately following the public hearing, a meeting of the Committee on Public Property and Public Works, open to the public, will be held to consider the action to be taken on the above listed items.

Copies of the foregoing items are available in the Office of the Chief Clerk of the Council, Room 402, City Hall.

Michael Decker
Chief Clerk

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Sharing a childhood of abuse onstage to help others understand

In an interactive show, a 52-year-old man speaks with the audience about his struggles surviving sexual abuse as a child.

Walking onstage to perform a one-man show isn't easy. Acting out your own trauma is almost unheard of.

Michael Broussard, 52, takes the stage in a plaid shirt. He begins his show, "Ask a Sex Abuse Survivor," by talking about a happy childhood he doesn't remember. The memory of a child who loved dancing is lost to several years of rape and abuse that began when he was 7 years old. His stepfather was his abuser. Euphemisms are off the stage, and the pain isn't sugar-coated. Broussard began writing his ever-evolving show in 2014. To this day, he continues to write his brutally honest narrative from his own memories.

"Every time I come up with something to try to portray it, and I start crying, I put it in the show," said Broussard. "If I get mad, it goes in the show. It's ripping the stitches open."

Broussard, based in Landsdowne, has performed his interactive show up and down the East Coast for psychologists and law enforcement, and a crowdfunded performance was just held at the Adrienne Theater in Center City.

A key part of Broussard's show is giving the audience time to ask questions and react at several points throughout the show. Instead of waiting to answer questions at the end, Broussard allows thoughtful pauses for discussion. Broussard breaks up the performance with opportunities for the audience to ask questions and give feedback. His focus on interaction makes the experience as much about others as it is about him. For Broussard, that's the entire point of performing.

"This is very vulnerable," said audience member and fellow performer Pete Haas. "Taking all of that emotion without a break would potentially be devastating."

"The thing about audience feedback is that it's terrifying," said Broussard. "What I want people to do is talk about this and

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Michael Broussard performs in a one-man show about his childhood trauma called "Ask a Sex Abuse Survivor." SARAH R. BLOOM

learn from it. You need to have feedback in order to do that."

In addition to performing in front of a public audience, Broussard has also done his show in front of therapists and other professionals who want to learn through a new medium.

"I'm a walking, talking case study," said Broussard. "People who are traumatized are re-traumatized every time they need to tell their story. I can answer questions about what happened to me when I was 7 from my perspective as a 52-year-old."

"What Michael is doing we all do to some extent — channeling his anger and rage, so to speak, into a productive pro-social way," said Dr. Steven Berkowitz of Penn's Child and Adolescent Trauma Program. "He's doing this by educating and helping people understand his experience and the experience of other people who were sexually abused as kids."

In addition to diagnoses such as post-traumatic stress disorder and depression, Berkowitz says that substance abuse is a common struggle for adults who were sexually abused as children. The National Child Traumatic Stress Network reports that 70 percent of people who are in detox programs for substance abuse have a history with childhood abuse.

"This performance allows him to take those experiences into the world and not hang onto them," said Berkowitz.

Broussard's message is one of hope. The darker moments of his performance are offset by his sense of humor and a passionate love for the show "Doctor Who." But after the applause ends, Broussard's performances can take a toll on him. Reliving the abuse can trigger depressive episodes and panic attacks.

But he knows his shows must go on.

"I have seen people talk about their own abuse for the first time in their lives," he said. "That makes me feel like there's a reason for what I do."

Learn more about the show at Sexabusesurvivor.com. MADELINE PRESLAND

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City of Philadelphia Public Hearing Notice

The **Committee on Streets and Services** of the Council of the City of Philadelphia will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, June 14, 2017, at 3:00 PM, in Room 400, City Hall,** to hear testimony on the following items:

170594 An Ordinance regulating the direction of movement of traffic on Lawrence Street between Ontario Street and Westmoreland Street.

170595 An Ordinance regulating the direction of movement of traffic on Westmoreland Street between Lawrence Street to 5th Street.

Immediately following the public hearing, a meeting of the Committee on Streets and Services, open to the public, will be held to consider the action to be taken on the above listed items.

Copies of the foregoing items are available in the Office of the Chief Clerk of the Council, Room 402, City Hall.

Michael Decker
Chief Clerk

North Korea fires suspected land-to-ship missiles as South Korea delays THAAD

North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un GETTY IMAGES

The launches, the latest in a fast-paced series of missile tests by North Korea defying world pressure to rein in its weapons program, come less than a week after the United Nations Security Council passed fresh sanctions on the reclusive state.

North Korea fired what appeared to be several land-to-ship missiles off its east coast on Thursday, South Korea's military said, a day after the South postponed full deployment of a controversial U.S. anti-missile system designed to deter a North Korean attack.

South Korea on Wednesday said it will hold off on installing remaining components of the U.S. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system that has angered North Korea's main ally, China, amid early signs of easing tensions between the two countries.

President Donald Trump, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson discussed the Korean situation, including THAAD, at the White House on Thursday, State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told a news briefing.

North Korea missile launches showed that THAAD was "important to, not only to protect U.S. forces, to protect our alliance and to ... help to further strengthen the region," Nauert said.

"We are aware, certainly, of the situation and the suspension of additional launchers," she said. "We would continue to say that THAAD was an alliance decision at the time, and we continue to work closely with [South Korea] throughout their process."

Nauert called the latest North Korean missile launches "provocative."

The missiles were launched Thursday morning from the North Korean coastal city of Wonsan and flew about 124 miles, South Korea's Office of Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

Under third-generation leader Kim Jong Un, North Korea has been conducting missile tests at an unprecedented pace in an effort to develop an intercontinental ballistic missile capable of hitting the mainland United States.

"We are aware, certainly, of the situation and the suspension of additional launchers."
Nauert

Compared to the different types of ballistic missiles Pyongyang has recently tested, the missiles launched on Thursday are considered to be more defensive in nature, designed to defend against threats such as enemy warships.

North Korea unveiled a number of new weapons at a massive military parade on April 15 to mark the birth anniversary of the state's founding leader and has since tested some of them.

"What appeared to be a new type of land-to-ship missile equipped with four launching canisters was unveiled at the parade," said Kim Dong-yub, a military expert at Kyungnam University's Far Eastern Studies in Seoul. "I think this might be what was used today."

REUTERS

Thousands come out to the XPoNential Festival every year on the Camden waterfront. COURTESY OF WXPN

X(PoNential) marks the spot

The 2017 XPoNential Music Festival rocks Wiggins Park and BB&T Pavilion.

A.D. AMOROSI

In 1994, WXPN began its annual, outdoor summer music festival — representative of the radio station's output — called the Singer-Songwriter Weekend at Penn's Landing. A quiet affair, things got louder in 2004 when the outdoor party was renamed the All About the Music Festival. It got moved to Camden in 2006 and then became named the XPoNential Music Fest in 2007.

"I wasn't here when the Singer-Songwriter Fest started, but the whole idea of it has always been a gathering of the tribes," says WXPN general manager Roger LaMay, a hands-on curator of XPoNential since his arrival 14 years ago. "If you like what we do on radio, this is a celebration of the artists you love. After outgrowing Penn's Landing and the one-day festival, we were able to expand in every way."

Such expansion meant everything from multiple stages at the bucolic Wiggins Park ("those grassy hills are so attractive"), a full weekend's slate of diverse acts, and — starting five years ago — a partnership with Live Nation to coordinate big-name headliners.

"For as little money and low ticket prices as possible," chimes in LaMay. "We do this for love. We want to connect our artists and audiences."

As LaMay prepares for XPoNential 2017 with returning acts such like Drive-By Truckers, Amos Lee, Hop Along and Wilco (along with newcomers The Decemberists & Olivia Chaney, Foxygen, Hurray for the Riff Raff, Charles Bradley & His Extraordinaires and more), he recalls some early favorites that rocked the house.

"Patti Smith, St. Vincent, Dr. Dog — those crowds really swelled with excitement. That'll happen this year too, with Philadelphia artists like Amos, Dave Hause, Strand of Oaks and David Bromberg. I'm also excited that we finally brought Brownout — the Brown Sabbath act — and the 'Screaming Eagle' Charles Bradley to our stages," LaMay says.

While the name "XPoNential" celebrates its 10th year, Drive-By Truckers, out of Athens, Georgia, celebrate their 20th year of nontraditional traditionalism with their most politicized album yet, "American Band."

Drive-By Truckers look forward to their return to the festival. PROVIDED

"Nontraditional traditionalists — that's pretty spot-on," says Patterson Hood, one of the band's co-founders. "We tend to write what we want to hear, what interests us. Sometimes I'm interested in things that probably shouldn't make for songs. We kind of made a career out of stuff like that: three songs about preacher murders, three songs about Buford Pusser, a Southern Rock Opera. But, we tend to gravitate towards the things we are intrigued about."

The political hard line of "American Band" stems from, in Hood's words, "trying to make some kind of sense of Trayvon Martin and Ferguson" and connecting it to life in Athens.

"I was questioning how and why we can't seem to evolve out of this 'fear of the other' and it spread from there," Hood adds.

It's that same sort of spreading that's made Drive-By Truckers not only favorites of the daily WXPN playlist, but of the XPoNential Fest, as 2017 marks the band's second time back as a headliner.

"XPN has always been super great to us and we love the festival," says Hood. "It's a treasure."

Friday, July 28 through Sunday, July 30, Wiggins Park (Riverside Drive) and BB&T Pavilion (1 Harbour Blvd.), Camden, New Jersey. Single day tickets and 3-Day Go Everywhere Passes: xpnfest.org

4 Must-see museum exhibits for summer 2017

School's out? Time to keep geeking out.

MADELINE PRESLAND

See the world through photographer Michael Nichols' eyes. PROVIDED

Philly deserves its stellar reputation for having some of the best museums in the country. Whether you want to entertain some visitors or play tourist in your own city, here are four exhibits to put on your to-do list.

Take a walk on the wild side at the Art Museum. PROVIDED

Getting wild at the Art Museum

See decades of nature through photographs taken by renowned photographer Michael Nichols. His breathtaking work features wildlife from around the world in addition to capturing some hidden corners of the world. His work is known for highlighting the importance of preservation. The Philadelphia Art Museum will show a variety of artwork made in different time periods that speak to the idea of wild.

If you go

"Wild: Michael Nichols" at the Philadelphia Museum of Art
June 27-Sept. 17
2600 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
philamuseum.org
$14-$20

A tropical escape at the Franklin Institute

An online game comes to life in new ways at the Franklin Institute. Escape the Rooms are life-size puzzles where the players learn to work with the objects in the room in order to find their way out. The Franklin Institute will be opening two Escape the Rooms this summer. The Island Room, opening on June 28, will be a fun and colorful interactive life-size puzzle. Go with a friend, or rent out the room for an entire group to escape the room (and the museum).

If you go

Escape the Room: Island at the Franklin Institute
Opens June 28
27 N. 21st St.
fi.edu,$28

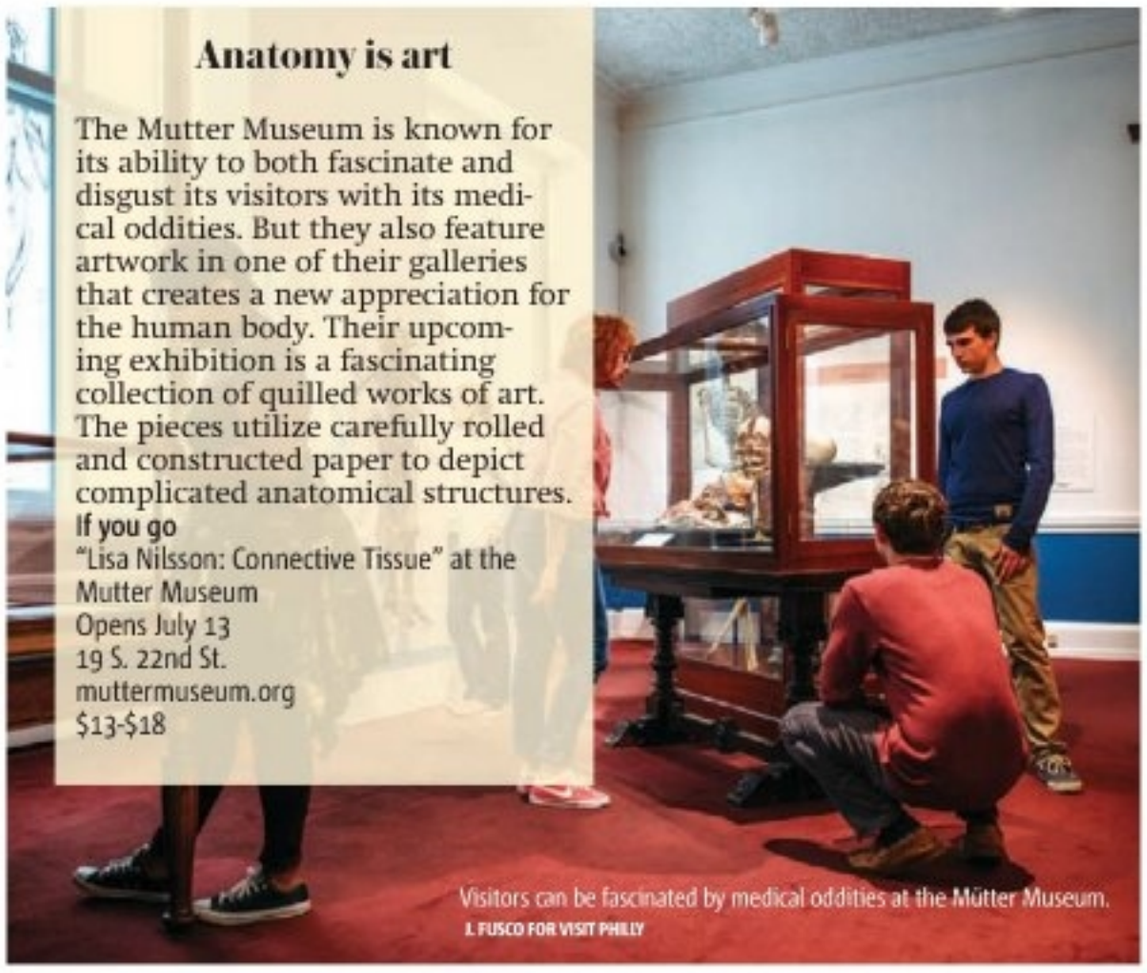
Escape the room at the Franklin Institute. R. KENNEDY FOR VISIT PHILLY

Anatomy is art

The Mutter Museum is known for its ability to both fascinate and disgust its visitors with its medical oddities. But they also feature artwork in one of their galleries that creates a new appreciation for the human body. Their upcoming exhibition is a fascinating collection of quilled works of art. The pieces utilize carefully rolled and constructed paper to depict complicated anatomical structures.

If you go

"Lisa Nilsson: Connective Tissue" at the Mutter Museum
Opens July 13
19 S. 22nd St.
muttermuseum.org
$13-$18



Visitors can be fascinated by medical oddities at the Mütter Museum. J. FUSCO FOR VISIT PHILLY

Before there were cities, there were mounds

Learn about North America's ancient structures. The "Moundbuilders" exhibit allows visitors to gain a new perspective on Native Americans and their way of life for 5,000 years. The upcoming exhibit features photographs of the earth domes built by Native Americans and artifacts recovered during archaeological digs.

If you go

"Moundbuilders: Ancient Architects of North America" at the Penn Museum
Opens June 24
3260 South St.
penn.museum
$10-$15

Learn about the ancient Moundbuilders at the Penn Museum. PROVIDED

Philadelphia Museum of Art

On View

Marcel Duchamp and the *Fountain* Scandal
Through December 3

Rodin Museum New Installation

Coming Soon

Art Splash Opens June 27

Wild: Michael Nichols Opens June 27

For more information, including a list of generous donors and organizers, visit us online.

Fountain, 1950 version of 1917 original, by Marcel Duchamp (125th Anniversary Acquisition. Gift [by exchange] of Mrs. Herbert Cameron Morris, 1998-74-1) © Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/Estate of Marcel Duchamp. *Eternal Springtime* (detail), modeled 1884, cast 1885, by Auguste Rodin (Gift of Paul Rosenberg, 1953-26-1). *Mrithi, Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda*, 1981, by Michael Nichols (Courtesy of the artist) © Michael Nichols/National Geographic. Art Splash photograph by Elizabeth Leitzell.

Sixth annual BlackStar Film Fest is an international family reunion

... and everyone is invited.

KYLE HILLER

From left: Filmmakers Aishah Shahidah Simmons, Zeinabu Irene Davis, Christine Turner and Julie Dash at 2016 festival.
COURTESY OF THE BLACK STAR FILM FESTIVAL

The BlackStar Film Festival returns for its sixth year in Philadelphia and promises to be bigger than ever. The festival, which celebrates films by and about people of African descent and indigenous communities from around the world, takes place Aug. 3-6. BlackStar is more than just four days of film screenings and workshops, but a much needed international family reunion, and everyone is invited.

BlackStar is the grand result of a more modest conception. Maori Holmes, the artistic director of the festival, wanted to curate a festival focusing on African arts in 2012.

"I didn't intend on doing a film festival," she says. "I was just thinking of doing a one-time thing."

BlackStar has since become an international film festival that's growing every year. While Holmes expresses big hopes for the continued growth of the festival, she stresses other elements that made BlackStar integral. "I hope we are a platform that is helping people part through what's going on," she adds.

A film festival that features works from five continents is demonstrative of just how inclusive it is. What started as a celebration of African arts is now a global festival. African arts and black culture reside in more than one or two corners of the planet.

"With the sheer globalness of it, I wanted it to be an international festival that showed how people's stories are interconnected," Holmes notes enthusiastically. "There is a certain kind of work that only gets seen in mainstream media. We're showing diversity and alternatives to those stereotypes and homogeneity."

The number of voices that aren't represented is immense. But the climate is shifting, and much of that is thanks to people like Holmes. As a curator, filmmaker and culture worker, she's organized programs in film and performance at ICA, Barnes Foundation, Asian Arts Initiative and Painted Bride Art Center. She's received awards from John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Leeway Foundation and Women's Way. The list of accomplishments goes on and is a testament to her dedication to impacting not only how black film and media are perceived, but how they are received.

"I think it's cliche that we talk about how accessibility is easier now," Holmes says. "We need to support the arts and [the BlackStar festival] is an arbiter for this kind of content that is social and political. The work is pushing boundaries and connects the artists to the audiences." Realizing that people didn't have access to resources like this kind of festival helped spark what BlackStar is today.

"I hope people can find some joy and lightness," she concludes. "There are frightening things happening here and abroad, and people will see this as an opportunity to connect and be nourished over these four days. Not by just what's on the screen, but seeing this as a family reunion. It's always important that people know that our audience is everybody."

For more information, visit: blackstarfest.org.

10 artists were chosen by the West Philly community to create 1 in a series of public art installations on the fence surrounding the former University City High School and the windows of the former United Bank.

Visit Lower Lancaster Avenue to see the works on display and come to the Opening Reception on June 15th.

LoLa 38 Installation Artists' Calendar

May
Oluwafemi
Melanie Booth

June
Lucy Pistilli & SLA Middle School
Dear Volunteers

July
Brian Bazemoore
Chanelle Hurst

August
Gabrielle Patterson

September
Ellen Tiberino
Karina Puente

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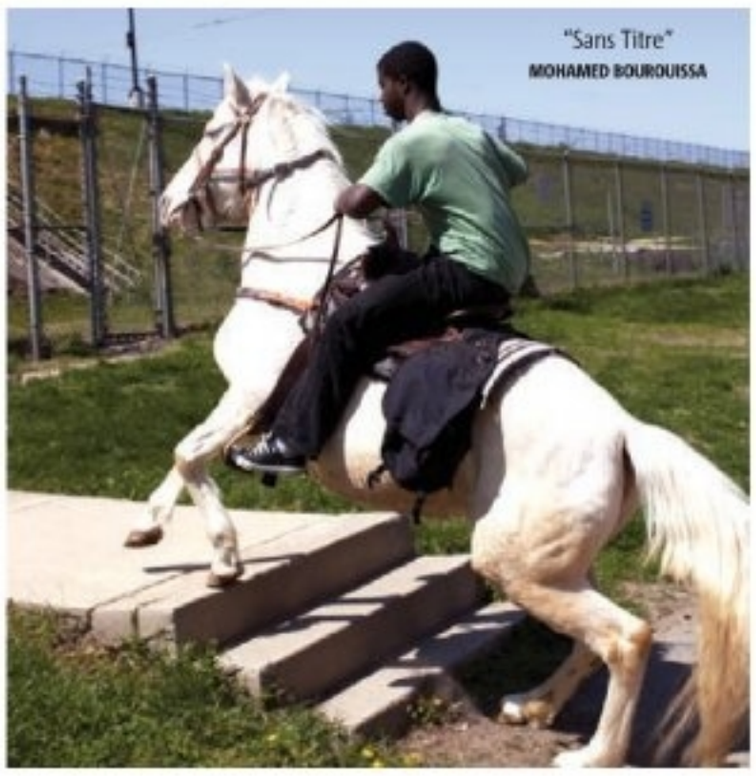
Urban cowboys are the inspiration for an art exhibition coming to the Barnes

The short film "Horse Day" documents a competition between the riders at Fletcher Street Urban Riding Club. The riders in colorful costumes made by other artists who collaborated with the riders.
BARNES FOUNDATION



"Sans Titre"
MOHAMED BOUROUISSA

If you go

"Mohamed Bourouissa: Urban Riders"
June 30-Oct. 2
$10-$25
Barnes Foundation
2025 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
barnesfoundation.org

North Philly, or North Filly?

MADELINE PRESLAND

People riding horses in the middle of traffic is always a surprise. But in some parts of the city, it's just a way of life. Artist Mohamed Bourouissa brings this to a larger audience with his new art exhibition at the Barnes Foundation.

Bourouissa is an Algerian artist who resides in Paris. The internationally acclaimed photographer has a special tie to Philadelphia. The work he created during his brief time living here will be on display and celebrated at "Mohamed Bourouissa: Urban Riders," opening on June 30. This is Bourouissa's first large-scale solo show in the United States.

Bourouissa spent several months with the Fletcher Street Urban Rider Club in North Philadelphia in 2014. His fascination with urban cowboys sparked his inspiration for several pieces of many mediums. He took photographs, sketched drawings, shot a short film and created sculptures based on the cowboys of North Philly. He created many of his pieces while he was living in city, but the inspiration also followed him back to Paris.

The film, "Horse Day," helps document an event that Bourouissa helped organize. Riders appear in colorful costumes in a friendly competition. Flowers and streamers add a sense that everyone is competing for the best in show. A key part of the film is the process of "horse tuning," or having the riders take through an obstacle course and line up for pageantlike judgement. The film is a combination of a documentary and fictional film that provides a perspective on the urban cowboy. Bourouissa was fascinated with the contrast between the riders' skills and the unlikely urban landscape where riding clubs like Fletcher manage to survive.

"Skin and Paper", a portrait by photographer and artist Mohamed Bourouissa PROVIDED

"For Mohamed, it's a way of questioning the American way of life and the way history has been told, especially this very racial approach to American history," says exhibition curator Sylvie Patry. "Everyone in Europe thought cowboys were white. When you look at scholarly books and the history of the West, that was completely untrue. Bourouissa's story has been told in a way to contrast this stereotype in popular culture. It's also a way of breaking these stereotypes to bring attention to a more inclusive vision."

The exhibition features more than 85 of Bourouissa's pieces. Although the idea of riding horses in the city seems foreign to some, the animals are still integral to these niche communities. Although horses aren't really used for labor in the city, the ones at Fletcher still serve a purpose. Fletcher aims to teach young adults the importance of responsibility and provide a mentor through a program that involves taking care of the horses and finding productive ways to have fun.

"Seeing them is a surprise for people who live in the city," says Patry. "I think the artist felt the same way — there's a sense of wonder. This project is a turning point for Bourouissa's career."

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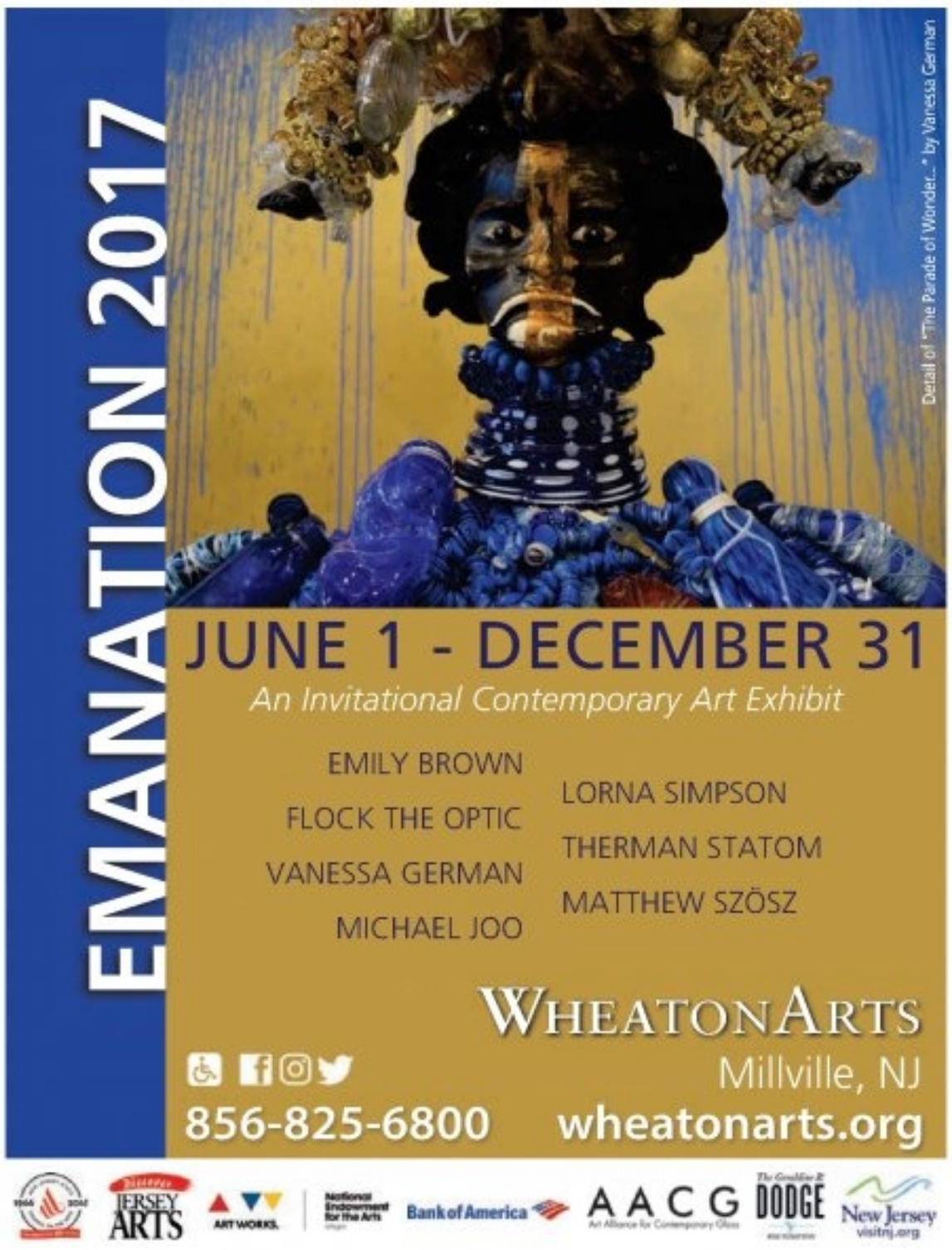

The cast all play their own instruments in addition to their characters. JOAN MARCUS

'Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story' comes to the Kimmel Center

Grab your glasses and your groove. MADELINE PRESLAND

Throw it back to 1957 when rock was brand new and how Buddy Holly shaped the genre in less than two years.

"Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story" tells the story of how Buddy Holly, just a boy from Texas, changed modern music. The show comes to the Kimmel Center on June 24 after completing a run at the Bucks County Playhouse. The same cast performed the show at the Playhouse last year. They set attendance records then, and knew they wanted to come back for more. This year, director Hunter Foster got his Buddy and the band back together.

"They came back like no time had passed," he says. "I think we're trying to tell the spirit of Buddy Holly that, even in 2017, people gather to listen to his music and watch his story unfold."

One important part about the show is that the band onstage is the band that's playing all the music. There is no hidden orchestra, and the actors aren't mimicking playing their instruments. The soundtrack for the musical includes some of Holly's hits in addition to original songs. Holly's first No. 1 hit was "That'll Be the Day" in 1957. A true Southern boy, he wrote the song after being inspired by John Wayne's repeating of the phrase in the film, "The Searchers." The song opens with a bright guitar riff that segues into Holly's clear, but powerful, voice.

Buddy Holly's story is as hopeful as it is tragic. He died in a plane accident at the age of 22 after less than two years of making it big with his music. The same accident killed fellow young musician Ritchie Valens. The accident shook up

John Dewey plays Buddy Holly in the biographical musical. JOAN MARCUS

The real Buddy Holly performs on "The Ed Sullivan Show" in 1958.
GETTY IMAGES

the music industry. Buddy Holly's legacy lasted far beyond his shockingly short career.

"This is my first time playing a rockstar," says actor John Dewey. "Buddy Holly was the Beatles before the Beatles. His rocket to fame and then sudden disappearance from the music scene created this vacuum. He was so talented. We don't know what he could have really done."

"He embraced his uniqueness," says Foster. "He was like, 'I'm a tall West Texan, I wear thick glasses and I'm a star.' I think that was incredibly brave, especially at such a young age. And at the time, rock and roll was all new."

Dewey brings Holly to life for the second year in a row. In addition to projecting Buddy Holly's finesse for guitar and singing, Dewey focused on learning as much as he could about the person behind the music. Doing so for someone who was only popular for a short time and not constantly being in television or on the radio like today's stars make it that much more difficult to make portraying Holly more believable.

"You don't have a lot of footage of this star from the '50s," says Dewey. "It's just small snippets here and there. You get your hands on what you can get. There's his little laugh. He had a certain kind of levity — you could tell he was enjoying what he did and he was passionate about it."

If you go

"Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story"
June 24-July 9
300 S. Broad St.
kimmelcenter.org
$20-$84

Hunter Foster directs the show for the second year in a row.
JOAN MARCUS

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J1-Con brings anime, manga

Fans of the anime series Sailor Moon show off their costumes at J1-Con. ALL PHOTOS JASON RICHARDSON

Fans of nerd culture will find themselves right at home.

MIKE FENN

Anime — the collective term for Japanese animation — has grown from a niche interest to a global phenomenon. With comic-book conventions morphing into popular culture gatherings and large industry trade shows, many self-professed nerds have turned to anime conventions for solace. The fact is that most conventions celebrating Japanese culture tend to cater to the fans, both the diehards and newcomers. And one such convention — the only one of its kind in Philadelphia —will touch down at the end of August for its sixth year.

On Aug. 26-27, J1-Con will take over two buildings at 820 Spring Garden St. Con founder and CEO Jason Richardson is proud of the longtime impact that J1-Con has had on Philadelphia-area anime fans.

"Most anime conventions have not lasted longer than two years in the city of Philadelphia," Richardson says. "We can now say that J1-Con is the largest and longest running anime convention in Philadelphia's history."

While longevity is certainly noble for any convention, it is especially impressive for a gathering that is not backed by any sort of institution or corporation. Richardson funds J1-Con entirely on his own through his entertainment website and geek-content hub J1 Studios. While not an easy

SUMMER OF '67
Wednesday, June 14, 7:00 pm
COOL HAND LUKE
1967 - USA - 2 hr 6 min - d. Stuart Rosenberg
Wednesday, June 21, 7:00 pm
MONTEREY POP
1968 - USA - 1 hr 18 min - d. D.A. Pennebaker
Wednesday, June 28, 7:00 pm
VALLEY OF THE DOLLS
1967 - USA - 2 hr 3 min - d. Mark Robson
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and video games to Philly

Fans of video games will be able to play their favorite titles and even compete in tournaments at J1-Con.

feat, Richardson enjoys the transparency that it provides and the fact that he can put a "face" to his convention.

"I'm very open when it comes to discussing issues I have as the CEO and as a fan," Richardson says. "I'm a nerd taking all my money every year and [in a sense] gambling it in order to put on an event that fellow nerds could enjoy."

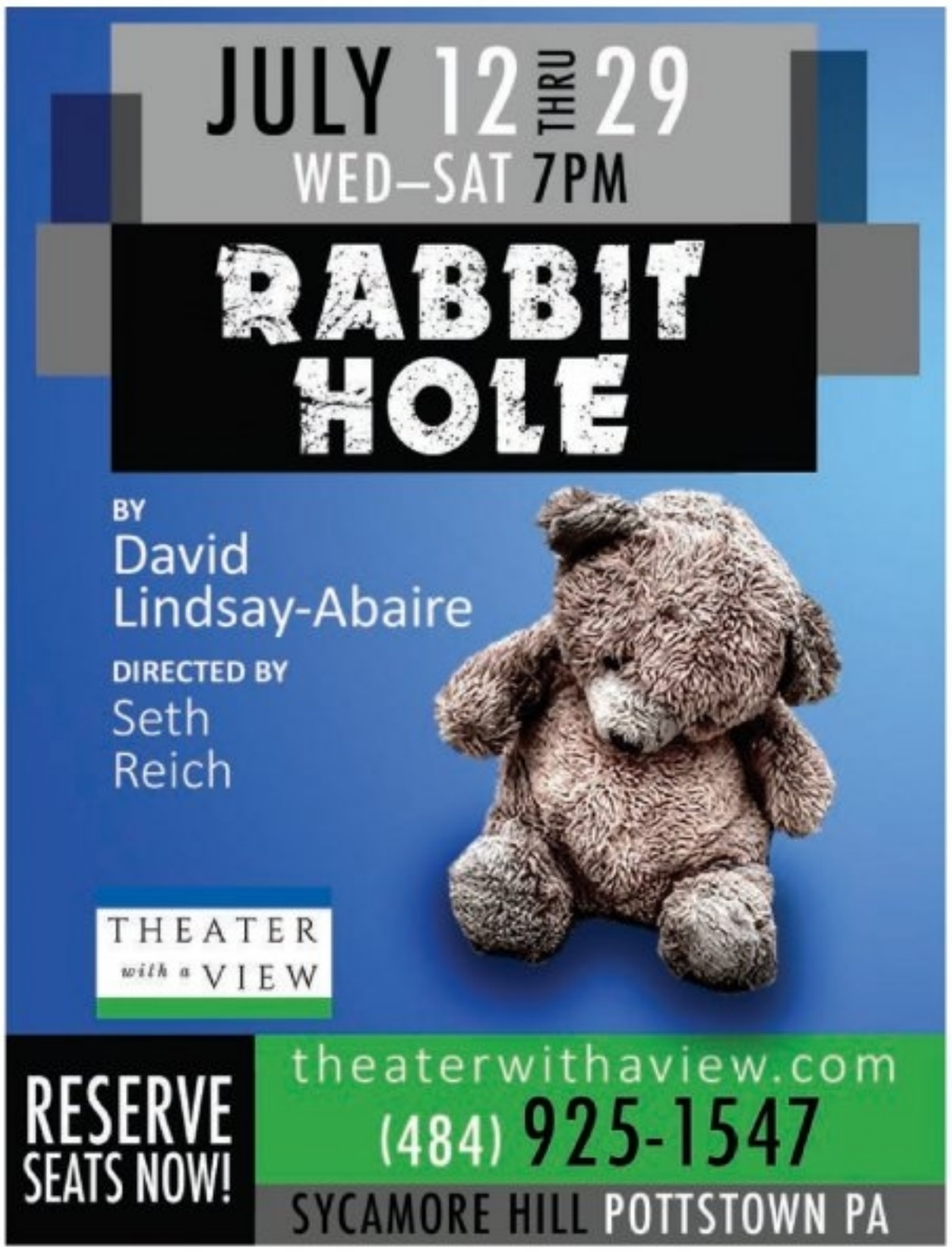
Richardson is also happy to see how anime fandom in Philadelphia reflects the city's diversity. "When I go to most anime conventions, I don't get a chance to see the level of ethnic diversity like I do at J1-Con," he says. "I love seeing so many people from so many backgrounds dressing up as their favorite characters while still being socially aware of each other."

The 2017 offering of J1-Con will feature something for everyone. Anime series and video game voice actors Keith Silverstein ("Naruto," "Pokemon Origins") and Leah Clark ("Eden of the East," "One Piece") will be on hand to meet fans, sign autographs and discuss life behind the scenes of some of the hottest anime series around. Additionally, there will be a large selection of vendors present, free video gaming provided by CeX and gaming tournaments featuring titles like "Super Smash Bros." "Melee" and "Street Fighter V."

And when it comes to cosplay, J1-Con is well-prepared. Not only will there be several professional cosplayers on hand, including Eric Moran and Mae Claire, but there will also be a cosplay costume contest that anyone can enter. The contest winner will receive a spot on J1-Con's Cartoon Network TV commercial.

If you go:

Aug. 26-27
Doors at 11 a.m. both days,
Registration $10-50
820 Spring Garden St.
j1con.com



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Tom Cruise tries to fight evil in the new reboot of "The Mummy."
CHIABELLA JAMES

wknd

Tom Cruise does the monster mash

The icon wants to bring back some old freaky creatures with "The Mummy."

LUCIA HERNANDEZ
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Tom Cruise really, really loves movies. They've made him a very rich man. But for him, it's about far more than money. In interviews and in his films themselves, you can always sense his boyish enthusiasm, his need to entertain, no matter what. Time and time again, he's nearly killed himself to wow us. In "Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol," he hung off the Burj Khalifa in Dubai — the world's tallest building. In the series' next film, "Rogue Nation," he jumped onto a plane as it was taking off.

For "The Mummy," Cruise "only" spent two days in a "vomit comet." That is, he filmed a key scene in a plane that nose-dived from the sky, creating zero gravity. But equally important to Cruise was that his new film brought back an old genre: the monster movie. "The Mummy" is the first in a new franchise called the "Dark Universe," which will revive Universal's classic creatures, including Dracula, Frankenstein's monster, the Creature from the Black Lagoon, etc. Even after some 35 years in the business, Cruise, 54, is far from jaded. He still just wants to entertain.

We talked to Cruise as he was doing international press for his latest blockbuster, trotting the globe to talk to journalists and fans alike.

It is amazing the way you interact with all of your fans on red carpets.
Listen, I came up with this idea of doing premieres in different countries, because I wanted to have that time to celebrate movies. I am a film fan, first and foremost, so I love that kind of engagement. It makes the job fun. And it gives me the chance to dress up. [Laughs]

GETTY IMAGES

You've done a lot of action movies. What's special about "The Mummy"?
"The Mummy" is totally different. First of all, it's a monster movie — the kind of movies that established Universal Pictures as a viable film company. So when they came to me and asked if I wanted to be part of this "Dark Universe," be the one who launched the first movie of this new universe, I felt it was a good opportunity to help define the genre of monster movies for a new audience. I love monster movies. I saw the original ones in black-and-white on television when I was a kid — the ones that were made in the '30s.

Why do you love movies so much?
They just inspire me. I've watched movies since I was a kid. Since I was 4 years old, I dreamt of making movies about the places where I grew up. I want to travel the world, but not just as a tourist. I want to learn. I love history and I want to be part of the culture. Movies allow me to see a different way of life, different cultures. It's a language that transcends all barriers, everything. I love it.

So, it's the love of your life?
Yes, it is.

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